

# The Romulus News

SEPTEMBER 14, 1999 – SEPTEMBER 23, 1999

"the little paper"

VOLUME 13 NUMBER 4

## Timely Tidbits ...

### Everyone's Welcome at City Pumpkin Fest

As you're making your plans for this weekend, be sure to set aside plenty of time for the third-annual City of Romulus Pumpkin Festival. The majority of the event's activities are set for Saturday and Sunday, September 18-19. For more information, see page 9.

### Rivers To Host Coffee Hour in Romulus

U.S. Representative Lynn Rivers will host a "coffee hour" for her 13th Congressional District constituents at Sister Act Deli (located at 36726 Goddard Road in downtown Romulus) on Tuesday, September 21, from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Concerned citizens are encouraged to drop by, have a cup of coffee, and discuss their concerns.

For more information, please call April Lewis at Rivers's district office: 734-485-3741.

### There's Still Time To Register for Adult Ed

Late registrations are currently being accepted for the Romulus/Van Buren Adult Education Department's GED-preparation and high-school-completion courses, which begin this week. For more information, call 734-941-0610.

### Fund-raiser Benefits RHS Performing Arts

A special fund-raiser for the choir, dance, and drama programs at Romulus High School and Middle School began early last week and will continue for at least two more, according to RHS instructor Judith Thompson-Barthwell.

Local residents are being contacted and asked to purchase items such as delicious frozen pizza, French-bread pizza, gourmet nuts, Amish-style fudge, durable trash bags, useful first-aid kits, and lifesaving fire extinguishers. All products will be delivered to your doorstep at no extra charge.

For more information, contact Thompson-Barthwell at the High School (734-941-2170, ext. 503).

## Officer Tom Ellis Named "Top Cop"

On August 14, 1999, the American Legion Honor Society, Grande Voiture du Michigan 40/8, recognized Officer Thomas Ellis of the Romulus Police Department as "Law Enforcement Officer of the Year."

Romulus resident Donald Moos of the organization's Riverview Chapter #1002 nominated Ellis for the award based on his efforts to organize crime-prevention and neighborhood-watch programs at Rudgate West mobile-home park in 1997 and 1998. As an honoree at the state level, Ellis will also be considered for a national award to be presented later this year.

Ellis received his tribute at the group's annual State Convention, held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Saginaw. Accompanying him to attend the ceremony was Romulus Police Chief Charles Kirby.

"We're all extremely proud of Tom," Chief Kirby said. "It was a real honor for him to be chosen from among so many nominees."

### UAW Local 845 Donates Teddy-bears to Youth Program

Through the efforts of member Nancy L. Conley, UAW Local 845 – Ford Sheldon Road has made a generous contribution of 38 plush teddy-bears to the Romulus Police Department's "Project 2008."

The program, named for the year that its participants will graduate from high school, partners at-risk students, who will benefit from the support of an additional "mentor" in their lives, with police officers from the department's Community Neighborhood Services (CNS) unit.

"On September 8, our officers began setting goals related to the children's education efforts," said Lieutenant James Rafalski, head of the CNS. "The toys will be used as gifts/rewards for children who successfully attain these academic goals, which are the most important aspect of the Project 2008 program."

"Some of the bears may also be used as Christmas gifts," he added.

The Romulus Police Department and UAW Local 845 – Ford Sheldon Road would like to thank Becky Weil, manager of the Sunnydaze Hallmark store (located on Ford Road in Canton), for her assistance in arranging the donation.



Officer Tom Ellis (center) – recognized by the American Legion Honor Society, Grande Voiture du Michigan 40/8, as "Law Enforcement Officer of the Year" – is congratulated by Romulus Police Chief Charles Kirby (right) and Donald Moos of Riverview Chapter #1002.



(From left) Becky Weil (Manager, Sunnydaze Hallmark), Mike Lambert (UAW Local 845), Nancy L. Conley (UAW Local 845), Lieutenant James Rafalski (Romulus Police Department), and (kneeling) Diane Berean (UAW Local 845) hold a few of the 38 plush teddy-bears recently donated to the Police Department's "Project 2000" program for at-risk children.

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## Letters to the Editor

### Romulus Tower Manager To Retire

To the editor of *The Romulus News*:

Before I retire from my position as manager of the Romulus Tower, I would like to express my deep gratitude to so many people for the years I have enjoyed here.

I will always treasure the support I have received from my tenants and the lifelong friends I have made.

I want to thank the merchants of Romulus whose generous contributions helped to make our holidays safe and truly unforgettable.

Many thanks, also, to:

- the Romulus High School students who served our special dinners so graciously;
- the Romulus High School students who interviewed our seniors and made fabulous books about them;

- the carolers from area churches who came to entertain us and share the spirit of the season;
- the Girl Scouts;
- the townspeople who joined us for our jamborees;
- the Romulus Police Department, Fire Department, and Emergency Medical Service, for seeing to our health and safety;
- the people of Focus Hope; and
- the staff members of "the little paper" for their continued support and coverage of our events.

This has been an emotional time for me. If I've failed to mention anyone, I sincerely apologize.

Again, many thanks and very best wishes.

Audry Moomaw

### Questions for Congressional Tax-cutters

Republicans and some Democratic Members of Congress are back in their districts, attempting to sell the idea of their proposed \$792-billion tax cut. They will have no problem selling it to the wealthy. Almost 30% of the tax cut would go to the wealthiest one-percent of taxpayers; their average cut will be \$23,000.

The tax-cutters are having a harder time selling their plan to middle- and lower-income taxpayers. For the bottom 60% of taxpayers, the tax cut is only \$139 a year. This would undoubtedly be absorbed by higher interest costs and lost government services, so the net result for most of us would be a financial loss.

Citizens are becoming aware of the fact that the tax-cutters are not telling us the whole story about their plan. There is no budget surplus this year, and the surplus projected for next year has already been allocated to such "emergencies" as the 2000 Census and increased military spending.

Furthermore, the only way there will be a surplus in the future is for Congress to enact a whopping \$775 billion in discretionary spending cuts over the next 10 years. The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities ([www.cbpp.org](http://www.cbpp.org)) says, "... the notion that discretionary cuts of this magnitude can be made is wildly unrealistic." I say such a spending cut is impossible.

In order to achieve the projected surplus that is the basis of the tax cut, discretionary nonmilitary spending would have to be cut 43% by 2009. Some spending – such as highways, health research, education, and the FBI – are not likely to be cut. That means

that the rest of the discretionary budget (e.g., national parks, environmental protection, Head Start, Amtrak, foreign aid, food-safety programs, air traffic control, etc.) would have to be cut even more – or eliminated.

When the voters become aware of this and make their concerns known to their representatives in Congress, these cuts just will not happen. This means that there will be no surplus. Thus, the tax cuts being given to the wealthy will result in another spiral of deficit spending, a greater national debt, and a greater tax burden due to increased interest costs.

When the tax-cutters come to a Town Hall Meeting to seek support for the tax cut, ask them: What specific programs will you cut or eliminate in order to achieve the \$775-billion in spending cuts required to make the projected surplus happen?

You might also ask them how they can be so certain that there will be no environmental disaster, war, S&L-type bailout, stock-market decline, or economic downturn that would invalidate the spending and revenue projections used to justify the tax cuts.

Edward Lawrence

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# A Fond Farewell

## A Word of Introduction

*Editor's note: At the start of a new school year, it's only natural that we turn our eyes toward a future of new challenges and experiences.*

*But, lest we forget the importance of school days gone by, we at "the little paper" would like to pay tribute to the many educators who retired last June after giving decades of service to the Romulus schools. During their careers, they had an enormous impact on our young people, preparing them to assume productive lives in adulthood.*

*Our community will build its success of tomorrow on their foundation of yesterday.*

*Throughout this issue, you'll find articles about nine of those retirees who were gracious enough to share some of their fondest memories with us.*

*We hope that the new generation of teachers, beginning their own careers this fall, will find just as much satisfaction in their work, and become just as big a part of our lives in the decades ahead. □*



Nichole Armstrong

## TEACHERS

by Nichole Armstrong

Teachers are very smart,  
They have a big heart.  
Teachers have funny words,  
They are not small words.  
Teachers talk a lot,  
They also walk a lot.  
They don't do drugs.  
When you're sad,  
They give you hugs.  
When you're having a problem,  
They understand.  
Teachers will always give you  
a helping hand.

## Linda M. Bradfield

Linda M. Bradfield began her professional career elsewhere, but most of her more than 33 years as an educator were spent in the Romulus Community Schools working with junior-high/middle-school students.

"As an art instructor, I went to work in Inkster in 1966, then came to Romulus in 1968," she explained. "In 1975, I began teaching science classes, continuing until 1980, when I became a counselor."

Although her job title changed from time to time, one thing remained the same: her desire to help her students reach their full potential.

"I am most proud of the fact that so many of my former students – now adults – have come back or written letters to tell me that I was a positive influence in their lives," said Bradfield. "Some even stated that their success was due to my encouragement."

"Comments like that really kept me going."

Bradfield has many warm recollections of the time she spent with her students.

"My fondest memories are of the time I spent as an Art Club advisor," she said. "I would stay after school and work with a group of talented students. We went on trips and put on art shows in several malls and at Eastern Michigan University."

"The students thought of me as a friend as well as a teacher."

A native of Morris, Oklahoma, Bradfield studied art and psychology at Langston University, receiving her B.A. in 1966. Later, she continued her education at Oakland University, earning an M.A. in guidance counseling in 1977.

Bradfield and her husband, attorney Clarence M. Bradfield, currently reside in Southfield. They have two children: Carmen Denise Bradfield and Clark Michael Bradfield.

She is an avid golfer, and has traveled extensively. □

## William J. Cuhran

Although he also taught a variety of subjects at Romulus Junior High School over a period of seven years, most of William J. Cuhran's three decades in education were spent as a physical-education instructor in the district's elementary schools.

"I think my most important accomplishment as a teacher was the creation of a physical-education program that was fair and fun for all," said Cuhran. "My classes frequently featured 'Cuhran originals' – games that I either modified or made up so that everyone could enjoy them."

"Too often," he continued, "kids who don't perceive themselves as natural athletes shy away from or get overlooked in traditional games. But, by putting the emphasis on fun, I was able to encourage more children to participate – which, in turn, helped them to develop better skills."

Those skills were put to good use in programs such as Cuhran's annual "Wick Olympics" for students in grades

kindergarten through six.

"The Olympics were a lot of fun," he recalled. "Thanks to the terrific support of parent groups, we always had plenty of ribbons and other rewards for the participants. Everyone came away proud of their accomplishments."

Cuhran also made significant contributions to the development of the district's older athletes, coaching varsity softball for 15 years, baseball for five years, and junior-high wrestling for more than 20 years.

Born in Detroit, Michigan, Cuhran graduated from his home town's Cass Technical High School in 1965. At Eastern Michigan University, he earned a B.S. and an M.A. in physical education, completing his degrees in 1969 and 1971, respectively.

Cuhran is happily married to his wife, Cheryl, a former photographic and commercial model who went on to work as a stylist/coordinator, deciding on wardrobe and makeup for models, pro-

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# A Fond Farewell

## A. Ruth Fairchild

After 24 years as District Nurse, A. Ruth Fairchild, R.N., can honestly say that she shared responsibility for the health and safety of an entire generation of the youth of Romulus.

"As the district's nurse, I worked with children from throughout the City," said Fairchild. "Besides caring for students from the elementaries, the Middle School, and the High School, my duties also included the care of Head Start and other preschool students, alternative-education students, and the students from St. Aloysius Catholic School.

"One of my most important responsibilities was upholding our immunization laws," she added. "At the time of my retirement, all students then enrolled in Romulus Community Schools had up-to-date immunization records, and there were less than 20 'waivers' on file [for students who do not receive immunizations because of medical problems or conflicts with their spiritual beliefs]. Such stringent enforcement is essential to prevent epidemics of serious illness."

According to Fairchild, being the district's nurse had some wonderful perquisites.

"Among my many cherished memories were the times I got to be part of a program that benefited needy children during the holidays," she recalled. "Once every three years, employees from the Chrysler Engine Plant in Trenton asked me to select 10 area children to participate in their annual Christmas Party/Shopping Spree for the less fortunate. It was always an incredible experience.

"First, we'd pick everyone up and take them shopping for food for their entire family, clothes for all their siblings, and a complete, head-to-toe outfit for themselves," Fairchild continued. "For many, it was the first time they had ever received brand-new clothing or had a really warm coat to wear. It was wonderful to watch their little faces light up with joy! Even more moving was the moment when each child got to share the spirit of giving as well as receiving, placing an extra pair of gloves on a mitten tree for other less-fortunate children like themselves.

"Finally," she concluded, "we attended the annual Christmas party, where Santa made a special appearance to distribute gifts to all the children."

Fairchild had a good grounding in nursing before she ever arrived in Romulus. The native of Newcomb, Tennessee, attended the University of Tennessee and St. Mary's School of Nurs-



Ruth Fairchild

ing, earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1958 and becoming certified as a registered nurse that same year.

In the next 17 years, she worked as:

- a public-health nurse in the Appalachian area of Kentucky;
- the Director of Nursing at Bethany Hospital in Jellico, Tennessee;
- an industrial nurse in the Ford Motor Company's Dearborn offices; and
- a head nurse at Beyer Hospital in Ypsilanti and Outer Drive Hospital in Lincoln Park.

During that time, she did almost every type of nursing imaginable, including emergency-room care, ICU/CCU duty, and obstetrical and pediatric nursing.

It was in 1974 that she became a certified school nurse and began working for the Romulus Community Schools.

Over the course of her 41-year career, Fairchild's many awards included:

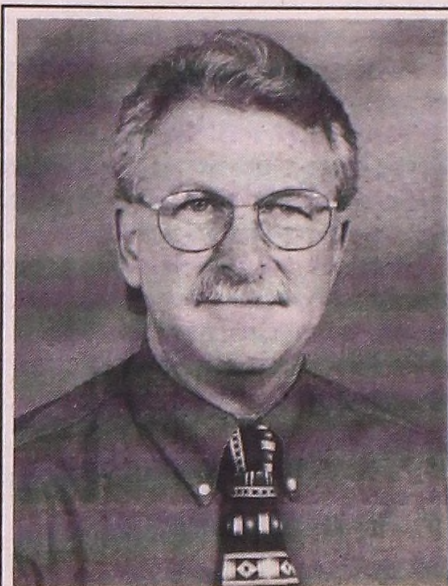
- Public Health Nurse of the Year, 1964 (Appalachian area);
- the Michigan School Health Association's "Healthy Life-styles" award;
- the Romulus Community Schools "Extra-miler" award (1988); and
- the Romulus Community Schools "Crystal Apple" award (1998).

Yet, despite all the professional recognition she's received, and despite achievements such as becoming a hospital nursing director while still in her twenties, Fairchild is most proud of raising and educating her four children, which she described as her greatest accomplishment and most difficult task.

"When my husband, Oran Fairchild, died in 1972, I was left to raise our children on my own," she said. "It wasn't always easy, but it was very fulfilling."

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## John C. Juriga



John Juriga

If ever a teacher made as big a difference outside the classroom as he did inside it, that teacher is John C. Juriga.

During his 30 years as a Romulus Junior High/Middle School educator – the first 24 as an industrial-arts teacher, the final six as a "Smart Lab" instructor – Juriga influenced thousands of young people. But his impact on the lives of others was considerably broadened through his dedication to volunteer work.

"My first big experience with volunteer service was in 1967–1968, when I went to Jamaica as part of the Peace Corps," said Juriga. "I was living in a place called Trenchtown and working with the Rastafarians. During my stay, I helped start an industrial-education school for junior- and high-school-age children in Kingston. Today – as I learned during a recent trip back – that area is so crime-riddled that tourists are strongly discouraged from going there, and cab drivers refuse any fare traveling there."

As a member of the Belleville United Methodist Church since 1980, Juriga has also done some missionary work, helping to build a school in Haiti in 1989, and homes for senior citizens in Russia in 1993. But he is just as proud of his work here in Romulus, especially his 14-year recycling program at the Junior High/Middle School and his efforts to start a Romulus chapter of the Boys & Girls Club of Southeastern Michigan.

"Through my own past experience, I know what a wonderful organization the Boys & Girls Club is," he explained. "It was at the age of 10 – in my home town of Binghamton, New York – that I first became a member. Since I couldn't afford the dues, the club gave me a job

working in the coat room for a dime an hour. During the next 10 years, I did a variety of jobs to maintain my membership. It was an important part of my young life."

It's not surprising, then, that Juriga persevered through the three years it took to get the Romulus Boys & Girls Club off the ground.

"Although it's been less than a year since our official grand-opening celebration, the club boasts a membership of more than 400," he stated. "We've grown so quickly that we're already planning a series of fund raisers so we can afford to move from our current site, at Merriman school, to a building of our own."

Juriga believes that the club has been successful because it's popular with parents as well as children.

"Not long ago, one mother walked up to me, gave me a big hug, and said, 'That's for getting the club started.' She told me that, before we got the club going, she had been paying much more than she could afford – about \$200 a month – for a latchkey program. Now, for just \$25 per child per year, she is assured that they are in a safe, supervised, enriching environment during their after-school hours."

Juriga said that his fondest memories are of all the great kids who went through his classes and the many friends he made over the years.

"I'll be at the gym, working out, and some big, brawny man will come up and say, 'Do you remember me?' As you can imagine, I sometimes have a tough time recognizing my former students because they've changed considerably from the pre-teenagers I once taught. But I always enjoy seeing them and hearing about the success they've made of their lives, and they always have nice things to say about the time they spent in my classes."

To prepare for his 33-year career in education, Juriga studied at Murray State University, where he earned his Bachelor of Science Degree, and at Eastern Michigan University, where he received his Master's Degree. Over the years, he has received a number of awards, including the Wayne County Gold Apple award (1996) and the Southeast Michigan Boys & Girls Club Volunteer of the Year award (1999).

Juriga and his wife, Wick Elementary Principal Deborah A. Juriga, reside in Belleville. They have three children: Justin (age 24), Travis (21), and Jesse (17). □



# A Fond Farewell

## Richard Kruse

Before Richard Kruse retired from teaching in the Romulus Community Schools, he amassed 33 years of experience as the Junior High/Middle School Band Director, and 25 years as the District's Music Department Head.

When Kruse was appointed to head the Music Department in the fall of 1974, no musical organization from Romulus Schools had ever achieved a first-division rating at a festival. Since that time, the district's musical groups have received many honors, including the consistent achievement of first-division ratings at both the district and state level.

In fact, in Kruse's 25 years as Music Department Head, the Middle School concert and symphonic bands achieved a remarkable festival record, receiving 21 first-division ratings at state festivals – more than twice the number achieved by the next closest school in the seven-county, greater-metropolitan Detroit area (a group of about 400 schools), which has 10.

Other past festival highlights have included:

- the Middle School Symphonic Band's "I" rating in 22 out of 25 district festivals, and 20 out of 21 state festivals, since 1974 – an achievement which appears even more significant when you realize that, on average, only about 33-35% of the state's schools receive a first-division rating in any given year;
- 17 years (1980–1996) of consecutive "I" ratings at district festivals;
- a 13-year streak of first-division ratings at state festivals (1980–1992); and
- 25 straight first-division ratings at district and state festivals (1980 to 1992).

Perhaps the most notable of the state festivals was the 1981 competition, held at Fraser High School.

"At a festival, after three bands perform in a classification, a judges' conference follows, and finally the ratings are put up – in this case, on a big scoreboard in the cafeteria," Kruse explained. "The first two bands to perform at this particular festival were from Grosse Pointe and Bloomfield Hills; our band was last.

"The kids from the other schools were being mean to our students, making comments like, 'Ha, what are you doing here? This is the State Festival. Romulus shouldn't be here.' I told my students to tell the others to wait until the ratings went up; then we'd see.



Dick Kruse

"With 300 students and parents packed around the score-board, the ratings finally went up," Kruse recalled. "Grosse Pointe got a 'II,' Bloomfield Hills got a 'II,' and Romulus got a 'I.' There was a deafening roar from our kids.

"It was an unforgettable moment."

Another highlight of Kruse's tenure as the Middle School's Band Director involved the Tour Band. Over the course of 12 spring tours, the band performed in Washington, D.C., for Michigan Day in 1987; appeared five different times at Universal Studios in Orlando, Florida; and gave performances at EPCOT Center, Sea World, and the cities of Romulus, New York, and Romulus, Alabama. The Tour Band also visited both the Virginia and the Florida Busch Gardens parks (performing at the Tampa site), and made various stops at the Six Flags parks in Jackson, New Jersey, and Atlanta, Georgia, as well.

Other noteworthy moments included the Middle School Symphonic Band's selection to perform for the fiftieth anniversary of the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association at the University of Michigan's Hill Auditorium in January 1984; and the I-94 billboard proclaiming "Romulus, home of first-division bands" that Kruse hired for three months in the fall of 1988, and that drew the attention of local TV as well as local and national newspaper coverage.

Many of Kruse's former students have come back to visit him over the years. Invariably, they thank him for all

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## Virginia M. "Ginny" Smith

Can you imagine being reluctant to retire after working in the same profession for 37 years? You can if you're Virginia M. "Ginny" Smith.

"I've known lots of people who couldn't wait to retire, who were so sick of their jobs that they left them saying 'good-bye and good riddance,'" said Smith. "But I've always loved teaching, and it's been hard for me to call it quits, even after all this time.

"It feels really strange not to be preparing for a new school year," she continued. "It's as though there's a small hole in my life, even though I really enjoy having the free time to visit with friends and pursue my hobbies. I guess that, if you do the same thing for almost four decades of Septembers, it becomes a part of you."

Indeed, Smith's reluctance to leave her beloved classroom probably accounted for the fact that she took a little bit longer than the average retiree to pack up her belongings.

"I spent weeks clearing everything out," laughed Smith. "Every time I'd pick something up, it would bring back a flood of memories, and I'd be side-tracked once again."

According to Smith, most of those memories were good ones.

"After 36 years in Romulus, I've got a ton of happy memories," she stated. "The old days at Hayti, where I taught second grade, seem so happy and relaxed considering the terrible stories about schools that are in the news today. We had school fairs, an active PTA, Christmas plays, and great parties involving school and community people. When I moved to Merriman, where I taught grades one through four, and during my years as a summer-school teacher at Beverly School, I was again surrounded by loving and supportive people from the school and community.

"My fondest memories are of all the children that I have had the privilege of teaching and knowing," she added. "It's hard to believe that my first students are now 44 years old."

Also important to Smith were her personal and professional relationships with her colleagues. For many years, she enjoyed being a part of the district's bowling league, and she was an extremely active union member.

"At one time or another, I've done it all," she said. "I've served on the salary committee, the negotiations committee (before collective bargaining), and the Board of Directors; been a past Presi-



Ginny Smith

dent, a building representative, and an avid public-relations person. I was always one of our union's strongest supporters."

Smith is also proud of her many years of service on committees for the district's major curriculum components, as well as the time she has spent as a mentor to beginning teachers.

When asked about the awards she's received throughout her career, she joked that they were "too numerous to mention."

Smith attended Henry Ford Community College and Ferris State University; received her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees from Eastern Michigan University; and has done post-graduate work at Wayne State University. Still unable to resist the lure of the classroom, she is currently taking a biology class at Wayne County Community College. The Lincoln Park resident is a member of Mensa, and enjoys scuba diving, traveling, and collecting dolls, salt dips, and spooners. □



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# A Fond Farewell

## Rosemary Foster Thomas



Rosemary Thomas

For some people, retirement is more a time of ending than one of beginning. But that's not so for Rosemary Foster Thomas, who has recently embarked on a whole new life.

"This past February, I married Michael Thomas, an employee of Ford Motor Company-Global Communications," said Thomas. "Because of his position, my husband travels extensively, and I'm looking forward to accompanying him on his business trips to Asia and South America."

"In fact," she continued, "we've just returned from a trip that took us to Hawaii, Thailand, the Philippines, India, and Amsterdam. It was a truly wonderful experience."

Of Thomas's 31 years in education, 27 were spent in the Romulus Community Schools. She taught the third, second, and first grades at Mt. Pleasant Elementary from 1972 until the school's closing; then moved to Merriman Ele-

mentary, where she taught a first- and second-grade "split" class as well as first grade and kindergarten. Throughout that time, she also served on various grade-level committees and the School Improvement Team.

Thomas is very proud of her accomplishments as an educator.

"I feel that, during my 27 years in Romulus, I maintained open communications with the parents of my students so that we could work together to help the children achieve at their highest level," she stated.

Also important to Thomas are the relationships she's formed over the years.

"During my career, I have had the pleasure of being associated with many dedicated, innovative, and creative teachers, and I value the friendships I have made during my tenure in the district," she said. "I have also met many wonderful, supportive parents, and have enjoyed working with them and their children."

Of Thomas's personal interests, her number-one passion is horses.

"I have been riding for the last 25 years," said Thomas, who keeps a horse boarded in Superior Township. "I ride three or four times a week, yearround."

"For more physical exercise, I bike twice a week during the summer," she added.

Thomas, who now resides in Livonia, earned her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Detroit and a Master of Arts from Eastern Michigan University. She has three stepchildren - David, Brian, and Denise - from her second marriage, and also has two grandchildren, with a third due to arrive on December 25. □

## Fanice "Fanny" Williams



Fanny Williams

According to her former student, Williams's candid remarks about the importance of working together and respecting one another made a big impression.

"Sometimes, when Mrs. Williams would tell the class to form teams for volleyball or some other game, one of the groups would end up exclusively one color. When that happened, she'd look at us and say something like, 'We need some more salt on that pepper team, ladies.' Everyone would laugh a little, and then we'd regroup ourselves accordingly."

"I remember that I was so impressed by her brisk, matter-of-fact way of dealing with a situation that had the potential for being explosive. I also admired her for the example she set by being equally affectionate to and approving of all her little 'spice girls.' She taught us that good sportsmanship was just an outgrowth of mutual respect, and urged all of us to work together. As we got to know each other, our friendships just followed naturally."

It's not surprising, then, that the accomplishment of which Williams is most proud is the impact she's had on her students' lives.

"During my 34 years of teaching at Romulus High, I was able to touch the lives of many people," said Williams. "I've watched many generations of families grow up."

Her fondest memory?

"The best moments were the times I was able to see my students walking proudly at their graduation," she stated.

Born in Montrose, Mississippi, Williams has a Bachelor of Science Degree from Alcorn State University. Before she began working in Romulus, she taught high-school physical education in the Chicago public schools.

Williams and her husband of 36 years, Thomas, are residents of Detroit. Stephanie, their 33-year-old daughter, has three lovely children of her own: Briana (age eight), Kenneth (six), and Kyle (four). □

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# A Fond Farewell

## William J. Cuhran

*continued from page 3*

curing props, finding locations, and taking care of the other numerous arrangements involved in scheduling a photo shoot. She also spent some time using her artistic talents for Winkleman's, doing illustrations for the company's fashion advertisements. Currently, Cheryl keeps her creative juices flowing by pursuing her love of painting, working in watercolor and acrylic media to produce still-life and landscape pieces.

But the biggest part of the Cuhrans' time – during warm weather, at least – is spent running "All Seasons," the couple's 12-cabin resort on Lake Paradise

in Carp Lake, Michigan.

"Now that I'm retired, my wife and I won't be spending as much time at our home in Livonia," Cuhran explained. "For the first time in the 16 years that we've owned it, we'll be able to open All Seasons in early May and keep it running through the end of October."

The Cuhrans have two children. Kristen, age 24, recently graduated from Grand Valley University, and is now working on her Master's Degree at her father's alma mater. Nineteen-year-old Aaron, a graduate of Franklin High School, is currently weighing his career options. □

## A. Ruth Fairchild

*continued from page 4*

Fairchild's daughter, Velvet, lives in Dearborn with husband Steve and their two children, Nicholas and Leah. Keith, formerly of Japan, now lives in Taylor with his children, Chizuru and Musashi; his twin brother, Kevin – who has a son, Scott – resides in St. Petersburg, Florida, with wife Diane. Fairchild's youngest son, David, lives in Jacksboro, Tennessee, with his wife, Selenia.

Having a big family is one reason for Fairchild's current busy schedule.

"I love seeing more of my grandchildren. They're the greatest!" she exclaimed. "Between spending time with them and working on hobbies like golf, bowling, gardening, arts & crafts, and sewing, I'm as busy as ever!"

Fairchild closed with a message for all the students, parents, staff, and community members she has worked with.

"I want to say thanks to all of you who made my job interesting as well as challenging.

"Stay healthy!" □

## Richard Kruse

*continued from page 5*

he has given them, often commenting that the self-confidence they gained through outstanding musical performance has helped them throughout their later lives.

Kruse said that he took very seriously the trust that the community placed in him to get results with the band program. Fortunately, he has had the pleasure to work with thousands of eager students and cooperative parents over the years.

"Our success required a total team effort – from the Board of Education, Central Office administrators, building principals, music teachers, parents, and students," Kruse stated. "Sometimes, we even got our name in the Congressional Record with the help of then-Congressman William Ford.

"Since Dr. William Bedell became Superintendent, the Middle School Symphonic Band has received 36 'I' ratings out of 38 festivals entered – a tribute to his support of the program," he added.

During his college days at the University of Michigan, Kruse was first-chair clarinetist with the Symphony Band for four years, and a featured soloist with the Band during its 15-week tour of Russia and the Middle East. Memorable performances included Tchaikovsky Hall in Moscow and Carnegie Hall in New York City.

Also among the honors that Kruse has accumulated over the years was his selection as "Teacher of the Year" in 1983, and "Person of the Year" by the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce in 1991.

*Editor's note: Since Richard Kruse's retirement from teaching, he has returned to the district's administrative office to perform a number of duties, including acting as editor for the school district's newspaper, Your Schools in Perspective, as well as co-editor of the City-School newspaper, The Link. He is also helping the district disseminate information about the September 27 ballot proposals.* □

## Ossilyn Woods

The secret to Ossilyn Woods's satisfaction and success as an educator is a simple one.

"I was a teacher because of my love for kids and the chance that it gave me to make a difference in someone's life," she said.

Since coming to Romulus in 1966, Woods has worked with children of all ages. After starting out as a physical-education (PE) teacher at the High School, she moved to the elementary level (special services) in 1967, and then to the Junior High in 1968. There, she taught PE until 1985, when she switched to English and social studies. In 1987, she returned to the High School, teaching a variety of subjects such as English, independent reading, public speaking, applied communications, global studies, and health until her retirement in 1999.

Woods's dedication to her students led her to sponsor numerous field trips and become involved in several extracurricular activities, including the Sigma Tau Club, the Booster Club, and the Girls' Athletic Association. She also spent 13 years coaching the Junior High's cheerleading squad, and 2½ years working with the High School squad.

No wonder she has such happy memories.

"I will forever cherish the many wonderful experiences that I encountered in Romulus," she stated. "I could not have spent 33 years in a more positive environment. Thanks to the Board of Education members, building administrators, secretaries, coworkers, community members, and – most of all – my many students for a very successful career.

"I'm proud of my relationships with my students and their parents, and of my ability to help so many young people through some of their most stressful times in life.

"My fondest memories," Woods continued, "are of the students who would return to visit after graduating, sharing some of the 'common sense' lectures that they heard in my class, plus other 'life skills' that they were able to use while in college and on the job, or during life in general. So many times, I would go to my mailbox in the morning, not feeling my best, only to find a letter or a card from a former student. That would make my entire week!"

The best thing about retirement, says Woods, is the opportunity it has



Ossilyn Woods

given her to indulge her true passion.

"Now that I'm retired, I can't stay out of the books," she said. "I'm finally getting to do what I never had enough time to do: read, read, read!"

Woods's future plans also include returning to the Romulus school district to give some of her common-sense lectures in a "motivational speaking" capacity, and pursuing a Master's Degree in religion.

Originally from Mobile, Woods studied at Alabama State University in Montgomery and Wayne State University in Detroit. She is certified to teach grades kindergarten through 12, having completed both a double major (health/physical education and social studies) and a double minor (English and psychology).

Throughout her career, Woods has received several certificates and letters of commendation, and has also appeared in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers* for the years 1990, 1996, and 1998. □

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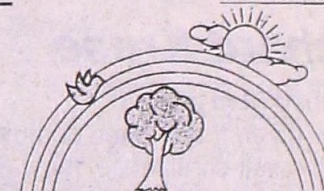
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## City's Annual Pumpkin Fest Signals Start of Autumn

Although it's always held a few days before the autumnal equinox, the annual City of Romulus Pumpkin Festival heralds the beginning of fall, just the same. What better to put you in a seasonal mood than the colors of a harvest bouquet, the scents of fresh-baked apple and sweet-potato pies, and the grinning faces of carved jack-o-lanterns?

Below, you'll find a brief summary of some of the events in store for this weekend. Most will take place in the area bounded by Bibbins, Olive, Goddard, and Shook roads. Please note, however, that this is a *tentative* schedule, and is subject to change without notice.

For more information about the events listed here, including the complete rules for the various contests, please stop in at the Romulus Recreation Department (36515 Bibbins) or call 734-942-6852.

For general information about the Festival and its organization, contact Maria Lambert at Romulus City Hall (734-942-7543).

### Canning Contest

Those of you who make the most of the season's harvest by canning your own fruits and vegetables will want to show off your home-crafts by taking part in this year's canning contest. All entries should be brought to the Recreation building on Wednesday, September 15, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

### Pie-baking Contest

Entries of pumpkin, sweet potato, peach, and apple pies *only* should be brought to the Recreation building on Friday, September 17, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

### Pumpkin-growing Contests

Entries for the "smallest face," "largest face," "tallest," "best-decorated," and "best carved" divisions of the pumpkin contests should be brought to the Recreation building on Friday, September 17, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

### Sunflower-growing Contests

Entries for the "smallest face," "largest face," "tallest," "shortest," and "most pitiful" sunflower should be brought to the Recreation building on Friday, September 17, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

### "Harvest Bouquet" Contest

Entries of live or dried flora should be brought to the Recreation building on Friday, September 17, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

### House-decorating Contest

Houses (decorated according to any autumn theme) will be judged Thursday, September 16, rain or shine. Call the Recreation Department (942-6852) before 5 p.m. Thursday to register.

### "Parade of Lights"

Generators are not only allowed, they're encouraged in this new twist on the traditional parade kickoff, set for 9 p.m. on Friday, September 17. Festival organizers are encouraging all participants to be creative, using their "brightest" ideas, when decorating their floats. Lots of lights are the order of the day . . . err . . . night. Prizes will be awarded for the top three entries.

Applications are available by calling 734-941-4462, ext. 250, or sending a fax to 734-699-8136.

### Saturday's Free Entertainment

- Shearer's Arts 'N Motion (11 a.m. to noon);
- Romulus K-9 Unit (noon to 1 p.m.);
- "Clock Weight" alternative-rock band (12:30 to 1:30 p.m.);
- "Madison Green" band (2 to 3 p.m.);
- Rumbly-Thunder Cloggers (3:30 to 4:30 p.m.);
- "Excalibur" karaoke with Paul Estoy (4:30 to 6 p.m.); and
- "Channel 6" band (7 to 11 p.m.).

### Sunday's Free Entertainment

- Romulus K-9 Unit (noon to 12:30 p.m.);
- "Bad Habit" blues band (1 to 2:30 p.m.); and
- "Sk'Bop" jazz band (3 to 6 p.m.).

### Other Highlights

Other attractions at this year's Pumpkin Festival will include:

- Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast (Sat., 7 to 11 a.m., Rec. Ctr.);
- craft display (Sat., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sun., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sr. Ctr.);
- used-book sale (Sat., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sun., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., games tent);
- road rally (see page 13 for details);
- pumpkin-rolling, hay-rolling, seed-spitting, bubble-blowing, pie-eating, and other contests (various times);
- sack races, shoe piles, "needles" (pennies) in the haystack, etc. (various times);
- roller-blade hockey tournament (Sat., 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wesleyan Church);
- children's crafts (Sat., 12:30 to 3 p.m.); and
- diaper derby (Sun., 12:30 p.m.). □

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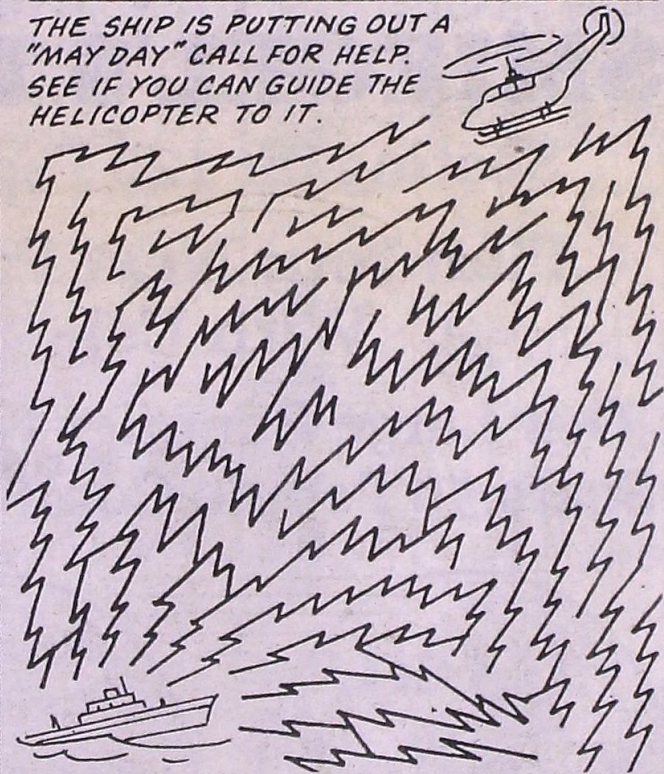
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## How important is school to you?

Do you enjoy school? The people, the classes and learning exciting new things every day? Find out how you *really* feel about school, and how you balance homework and social time:

### 1. When I wake up in the morning, my first thought is:

- a. "I hope I did well on my test/homework."
- b. "What's for breakfast?"
- c. "What am I going to wear?"
- d. "I don't want to go to school."

### 2. Does being late to school bother you?

- a. Yes
- b. Sometimes
- c. No

### 3. Which is most important?

- a. Having all of my homework done *correctly*.
- b. Having all of my homework *done*.
- c. Looking my very best.

### 4. Do you wish that school could be:

- a. More difficult and challenging.
- b. Two or three hours shorter.
- c. Much easier.
- d. Closed forever.

### 6. At lunch time I:

- a. Start on my homework and eat my lunch.
- b. Attend my other school activity.
- c. Eat my lunch alone or with my friends.
- d. Count the minutes until it's time to go home.

### 7. When I arrive home I:

- a. Immediately start on my homework.
- b. Fix a snack, then start on my homework.
- c. Watch TV.
- d. Start on my homework because I was forced to.

### 8. When I do my homework I:

- a. Always double-check it and make sure it's neat and correct.
- b. Do it carefully, but I don't double-check it.
- c. Do it as quickly as I can so I can watch TV, go out or talk with my friends.
- d. Save it for later, maybe.

### 9. When I don't hand in my homework or do well on a test, I:

- a. Feel very bad and try not to let it happen again.
- b. Try to do better next time, but don't bother myself with it too much.

- c. Think of a good excuse.

### 10. I like to:

- a. Get my work and studying done early so I can begin working on something else.

- b. Spread my homework and study time out.

- c. Do my work while watching TV, listening to the radio, or talking on the telephone.

- d. Complete my assignments the day before they are due, or later.

### 11. I have to be told to do my schoolwork every day:

- a. No
- b. Sometimes
- c. Yes

### 12. How do you remember your assignments?

- a. I write them all down in my assignment pad or notebook.

- b. I write them on a scrap of paper.

- c. I call a friend and get them.

- d. I just try to remember them until I get home.

### Here's how to evaluate yourself:

**12 a's** — You are an outstanding student! Fantastic! Marvelous! Stupendous! Any profession that takes dedication, patience, and thoroughness will suit you perfectly, because these are the qualities you possess now. Keep up the good work, but remember to have *some* fun!

**All a's and b's** — You are concerned about school but your personal time is important to you also. You are doing a great job of balancing worktime and playtime, and your priorities are in check — try not to slip!

**Mostly a's or b's, but some c's and d's** — You're a very good student, but sometimes you get a little tired of schoolwork and allow your concentration to float away from homework. You have a good, sharp mind, so try to keep a handle on it.

**Mostly c's and/or d's; very few or no a's or b's.** — You say school can take a hike! Come on! It can't be *that* bad! Better to go through it now than to regret it for the rest of your life.

K9910008



## Romulus Police Report



Police Explorer member Jason Orme is the recipient of a \$300 scholarship from the Romulus Police Officers Association.

*continued from page 1*

### Police Explorer Orme Receives \$300 Scholarship from RPOA

Jason Orme, a member of the Romulus Police Explorers program, has been awarded a \$300 college scholarship from the Romulus Police Officers Association.

"Explorers are people between the ages of 14 and 21 who aspire to become police officers," explained Juvenile/Youth Officer James Lazarski, who

established the local Explorers group in 1995 and has acted as its director up to the present time. "They're given first-hand exposure to the daily rigors of police work, enabling them to decide if a law-enforcement career is right for them. Participants dress in a uniform, attend Police Academy-type classes, go to the pistol range once a year, and eventually ride along with an on-duty officer."

According to Lazarski, Orme was one of the original members of the Explorers, joining when he was 14 years old. The 1999 graduate of Romulus High School is currently working toward a degree in law enforcement at Schoolcraft College.

"Because of Jason's hard work, he has been promoted to Lieutenant, the highest rank within the Explorer unit," Lazarski stated. "He deserves this scholarship money to help defray the cost of his tuition and books."

"Next year, I hope to be able to increase the amount of money we put into the annual scholarship fund," he added.

Anyone who would like to learn more about a future career in law enforcement and the Romulus Police Explorers program is encouraged to contact Lazarski at the Romulus Police Department (734-942-6877). □

## Teachers Attend Leadership Workshop



At a recent workshop, Educational Consultant Henry Cade (back) discussed leadership strategies with Romulus teachers, including (from left) Kathryn Gable (Wick Elementary), Lisa Zeleji (Wick Elementary), Sharon Grandell (Middle School), and Belinda Dendrinis (Middle School).

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## CAN YOU GUESS WHO?

You might not have known our "mystery man" when this picture was taken, but his adult face is familiar to many people in the City of Romulus.

To learn his identity, anagram (rearrange) each "key word" below – WITH THE ADDITION OF ONE LETTER – to answer the corresponding clue, and fill in the blanks accordingly.

If the puzzle is done correctly, the added letters, read from top to bottom, will spell out the name of this prominent local citizen.

### ADD THE LETTER . . . TO THE LETTERS IN . . . TO GET

- \_\_\_\_\_ . . . SATIRES . . . a politically incorrect job title \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ . . . DOING . . . a rainbow hue \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ . . . DARED . . . something that corporate-types climb \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ . . . NOISES . . . the queen of the jungle \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ . . . LOGO . . . a real White House \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ . . . HALO . . . a Hawaiian "hello" \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ . . . PEAL . . . a word preceding "leaf" or "syrup" \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ . . . TAMALE . . . Quaker breakfast fare? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ . . . SAIL . . . "Smith" and "Jones" are common examples \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ . . . VANE . . . he stole tarts from the Queen of Hearts \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ . . . TRITE . . . a type of bug? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ . . . GALE . . . a Romulus High School athlete \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ . . . AKENE . . . a Rebel's foe \_\_\_\_\_

For solution, see page 15

## YOU'LL FIND IT IN "ADMINISTRATOR"

How many six-letter words can you form using only the letters found in ADMINISTRATOR? A letter can be used more than once only if it appears more than once. Proper nouns, plurals, obsolete and archaic words, slang and informal words, poetic words, hyphenated words, contractions, alternate spellings, and foreign words are not permitted.

Our list of 44 words can be found on page 15

## Community Calendar

- **"African American Experience" Book Discussion Group** – The newly formed African American Experience Book Discussion Group will meet from 7 to 8 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month (next meeting on September 15) at the Romulus Public Library (11121 South Wayne Road, next to City Hall). New members are welcome. For more information, call Alfaye Woods or Diane Hazen at the Library (734-942-7589) during its regular hours (Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday, 12 to 5 p.m.).
- **Rivers Hosts "Town Hall" Meeting** – U.S. Congresswoman Lynn Rivers will host a Town Hall meeting in Room 201 of the Ypsilanti Township Community Center (2025 East Clark Road) on Saturday, September 18, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. All 13th Congressional District constituents are encouraged to attend this informal event, at which Rivers will offer updates about ongoing events in Washington, D.C. For more information, or for directions to the Community Center, call April Lewis at Rivers's district office: 734-485-3741.
- **Yard & Craft Sale at Rudgate West** – Rudgate West (located on Ecorse Road between Cogswell and Hannan) will host a Yard & Craft Sale on Saturday, September 25, and Sunday, September 26, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The public is welcome.
- **Prince of Peace Celebrates 50th Anniversary** – Pastor David K. Bonde, Lay Associate Jann Martin, and the congregation of the Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church (located at 37775 Palmer Road, between Newburgh and John Hix roads in Westland) will recognize the Church's 50th anniversary on Sunday, September 26, with a 10:30 a.m. worship celebration. Guest speaker for the event will be Bishop Robert Rimbo. The public is welcome. For more information, call the Church: 734-722-1735.
- **Crafters Wanted!** – St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (located at the corner of Ellis and Craig streets in New Boston) is looking for crafters for its annual Applefest Bazaar and Craft Show, which will take place on the first weekend in the month of October. For more information, please call the church at 734-753-9048.
- **Bake/Rummage Sale** – Whispering Willows senior-citizen apartments (located at 11100 Wayne Road) will host its annual indoor bake/rummage sale on Friday, October 8, and Saturday, October 9, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Among the enormous variety of items that will be offered for sale will be kitchen utensils, pictures, linens, and clothing. The public is welcome.
- **RHS Alumni Baseball Game** – Former Romulus High School students of all ages are invited to participate in the fifth annual Alumni Baseball Game, set for Saturday, October 16, at 1 p.m. (Home Run Derby will precede the game at 12:30 p.m.). Donation is \$25 per person for the game, with an additional donation of \$5 for the derby. For more information, contact Keith Brothers at the Romulus Recreation Department (734-942-6852).
- **TOPS Meetings** – TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter #M11690, Taylor – a nonprofit weight-loss support group – invites you to attend its weekly meetings, which are held at 7:05 p.m. each Thursday at Taylor Church of Nazarene, Eureka Road just west of Telegraph. Dues are \$20/year + \$1/week (first visit free).
- **Big, Beautiful People Welcome!** – The "More to Love" Social Club for Big, Beautiful People and their admirers welcomes you. Call 313-438-2720.
- **St. Aloysius Accepting Registrations** – St. Aloysius Catholic School, located at 37200 Neville Road in Romulus, still has a few openings for the 1999–2000 school year for students in grades kindergarten through eight. Along with academics, the school offers a five-day/all-day kindergarten program, a brand-new computer lab (three days per week), physical education (two days per week), and an instrumental music program. For further information, call the school office (734-941-3340).
- **Head Start Seeks Applicants** – Romulus Head Start is recruiting eligible three- and four-year-old children for its free preschool program, which is held at Beverly School. Head Start serves children from low-income families, foster children, and children with disabilities. For more information, or to apply, call 734-334-1812.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 941-4874; or call 941-1907 or 941-3113

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# Recreation Programs

Thanks to Debbie Dick, Director, City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, and Keith Brothers, Recreation Coordinator, for supplying information for the "Recreation Programs" column.

Unless otherwise noted, registration for the following programs should be made at the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation office during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 6 p.m.).

For more information, stop in at the Recreation office (36515 Bibbins) or call 734-942-6852.

## After-school Soccer

Late registrations are still being accepted for the Recreation Department's after-school soccer program, which began September 13 at all five elementary schools, and will continue through October 27. Students from grades three and four play on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:15 to 5 p.m.; fifth- and sixth-graders play from 3:15 to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. A cost of \$25 includes supervision, transportation home, and a T-shirt. (Students who already have a shirt from 1998 or 1997 pay just \$17.)

## Floor Hockey

The Recreation Department's after-school floor-hockey program will run from November 2 through December 16. Play schedules and fees will be identical to those for the after-school soccer program (left).

## Aerobics

An eight-week aerobics program will be held in the Middle School cafeteria from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays beginning September 20. Cost is \$50 for one class per week; \$65 for two. Preregistration is required.

## Gymnastics

There's still time to register for the Recreation Department's seven-week gymnastics program, which will begin September 16 and continue through October 28. Classes for ages five through nine are held at Romulus High School each Thursday from 7:15 to 8 p.m. (A class for ages three and four will be formed if enough interest is demonstrated.) Cost is \$45.

Note: Following the first session, a six-week program will begin November 4 and continue through December 16. Cost will be \$40.

## Clogging

A starting date has not yet been set for an eight-week clogging program planned by the Romulus Recreation Department. Beginner-level classes will be held at the Recreation building each Monday at 6 p.m. Cost will be \$20. For more information, contact the Recreation office.

## Karate

There's still time to register for a 10-week karate program, which begins September 14. The Tuesday/Thursday classes will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. for beginners, and from 7 to 8:30 p.m. for students of intermediate ability. Cost is \$30 per individual, \$55 for two family members, or \$75 for three.

## Punt, Pass, and Kick

The Recreation Department's annual Punt, Pass, and Kick program is open to all Romulus boys and girls ages eight to fifteen. The event will be held at Senior Citizens Park (located behind the Recreation building) on Saturday, September 25, beginning at 11 a.m. Although there is no cost to participate in the program, preregistration must be made no later than Friday, September 24. A birth certificate must be furnished at the time of registration.

## Drop-in Basketball

### Teen Hoops

A drop-in basketball program for Romulus teens (proper I.D. required) will run each Thursday from October 7 through December 16 at Romulus Middle School. Middle School students will play from 6 to 7:30 p.m.; High School students play from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Cost is \$1 per evening.

### Men's Hoops

Adult men who reside in Romulus (proper I.D. required) are invited to play drop-in basketball at the Middle School from 8 to 10 p.m. each Tuesday beginning October 5. Cost is \$2 per evening.

## Rumplestiltskin

Children ages three and older (and their parents) are invited to take part in the Recreation Department's trip to the Northville Theatre to see a live production of the fairy tale *Rumplestiltskin* on Saturday, September 25. A bus will depart from the Recreation building at 1:30 p.m. and return at approximately 4:30 p.m. Cost is \$6.50 per person. Preregistration is required by Friday, September 24.

## Quilters Welcome!

The Romulus Recreation Department is inviting all quilters and "quilter wannabes" to drop in at the Center on Thursday evenings from 7 to 9:30 p.m. There is no charge to participate in this weekly workshop.

## Road Rally

Since last year's event was such an enormous success, the Romulus Recreation Department will once again sponsor a Road Rally in conjunction with the annual Romulus Pumpkin Festival to benefit Romulus Little League and Romulus High School baseball.

Set for Saturday, September 18, from 6 to 9 p.m., the Road Rally will begin with an orientation briefing at the Recreation Center, then continue as participating teams (up to six people per vehicle) try to become one of the first three groups to track down a series of clues and win a prize.

Registration for the Road Rally will begin August 16 at the Recreation office. Entry fee is \$10 per person. Because space is limited to the first 40 teams to sign up, advance registration is recommended. Deadline for registration is Friday, September 17.

For more information, contact Keith Brothers at the Recreation Department office (734-942-6852) or call Debbie DeMoisey (734-942-9261). □

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## Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus, and Audry Moomaw, Manager of the Romulus Tower, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column.

(Note: For more information about events at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins, call 942-6852.)

### Happy Birthday!

Best wishes for a wonderful birthday to those of my Tower neighbors born in the month of September: Eva Baker, Alice Briggs, Ray Moomaw, and Geneva Prosser.

### Bake/Rummage Sale

Whispering Willows senior-citizen apartments (located at 11100 Wayne Road) will host its annual indoor bake/rummage sale on Friday, October 8, and Saturday, October 9, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Among the enormous variety of items that will be for sale will be kitchen utensils, pictures, linens, and clothes.

The public is welcome.

### Pumpkin Festival Craft Show

Space is still available at no charge to local seniors (age 50 and up) who would like to participate in the Romulus Senior Center's upcoming craft show, to be held Saturday, September 18, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, September 19, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., in conjunction with the City's annual Pumpkin Festival. Sign up at the Center.

### September Luncheon

September's luncheon at the Romulus Senior Center – set for Friday, September 24, at 1 p.m. – will be an old-fashioned potluck with a new twist: each table of diners will keep their dishes to pass among themselves. (Dishes should be planned to serve 10 to 12 people; couples must bring two dishes.)

If you cannot make a dish to share, you can pay \$3.50 in advance; a dish will be provided for you.

Sign up at the Center.

### Crime Watch

Officer Joe Richardson of the Romulus Police Department will be on hand at the Senior Center at 9 a.m. Thursday, September 23, for the Center's monthly Crime Watch program. As usual, safety tips and other crucial information will be discussed.

New members are always welcome.

### Bunko

The Romulus Senior Center is now hosting bunko games each Tuesday at 1 p.m.

Refreshments will be served.

### Eight-ball Pool Tourney

At least eight players (age 55 and older) are needed for an eight-ball pool tournament, to be held at 12:30 p.m. each Tuesday during the month of October (5, 12, 19, and 26) at the Electric Stick in Westland.

An entry fee of \$3 per person will be charged.

Call the Center for more info.

### Special Trips

Seniors interested in more information about these or other special trips that have been planned by the Romulus Senior Center should call Linda Norman at 942-6852.

(Please note: Deposits reserve your seat for any bus trip. Complete payment is due at least two weeks prior to departure for day trips; for overnight trips, payment is due at least 30 days prior to departure. Checks may be made payable to the City of Romulus or the tour company.)

- **Soaring Eagle Casino** (September 29; \$21);
- **Biloxi & New Orleans** (November 7-13; \$499);
- **Soaring Eagle Casino** (November 16; \$21);
- **"Mystery Tour"** (November 17; \$55); and
- **Radio City Rockettes/Fox Theatre** (December 10; \$79).

### Exercise/Toning

The Senior Center invites you to drop in at any of its free toning/stretching/aerobic exercise classes, which are held on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays at 9:30 a.m.

Refreshments will be served.

Please note: The Center recommends that all participants wear comfortable clothing, and urges anyone unused to physical exertion to consult a physician before beginning.

### Center Offers Transportation Service

Round-trip transportation service within the Romulus city limits is available to local seniors each Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for a fee of just \$1. Reservations must be made by 2 p.m. the day before.

Call 942-6852 during the Center's normal business hours.

### Hot Lunch

For just \$1.50, Romulus seniors (age 60 and over) can enjoy a hot lunch at the Center any weekday at 11:30 a.m. Call the Romulus Senior Center at least 24 hours in advance to make a reservation.

For information about "Meals on Wheels," call 1-800-851-1454. □

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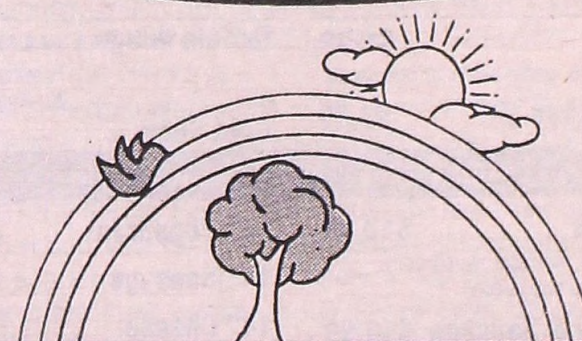
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If you are a resident of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your new addition (child or grandchild). If possible, please enclose a photograph of your new arrival. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS  
P.O. Box 74038  
Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038

Baby's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_  
Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Length \_\_\_\_\_  
Birthplace \_\_\_\_\_  
Parents \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Siblings \_\_\_\_\_

Maternal Grandparents \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Paternal Grandparents \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): \_\_\_\_\_

Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

# Obituaries

## Andy John Centek

Andy John Centek of Carleton, Michigan (formerly of Romulus, MI), died Thursday, September 9, 1999. He was 83 years old.

Born in Smock, Pennsylvania, on February 1, 1916, Andy married Eva Mae Gumlack in River Rouge, Michigan, in 1935. Besides working as a general foreman for Ford Motor Company (from which he retired in 1977), he also owned and operated Speedway 79 gas station (Romulus, MI) for many years, and spent nearly two decades as a Romulus Fire Department volunteer.

Andy loved anything to do with nature, especially fishing.

He is survived by two sons, Andy Jr.

(Canton Twp, MI) and Gary Centek (Saginaw, MI); one daughter, Darlene Harbensi (Carleton, MI); nine grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. Predeceasing him were his parents; his wife; one daughter, Virginia Cook; three brothers; and two sisters.

A funeral service was held Saturday, September 11, at Arthur Bobcean Funeral Home (Carleton, MI), with the Reverend David W. Jones (Emmanuel Baptist Church, Carleton, MI) officiating. Cremation arrangements were made by Southern Michigan Services (Livonia, MI).

Memorial tributes may be made to the American Diabetes Foundation.

## Irene G. (Fortner) Gnas

Irene G. (Fortner) Gnas of Romulus, Michigan, died Sunday, September 5, 1999, at the age of 74.

A native of Marshall, North Carolina, Irene was born April 29, 1925.

She is survived by three sons, William T. (Nellie) Fortner (Howell, MI), Daniel J. Brewington (LA), and Frank R. (Jane) Gnas (Romulus, MI); nine grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

Her husband, Stanley, predeceased her.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, September 8, at St. Aloysius Catholic Church (Romulus, MI), with Father Richard Thomson officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock, MI). Arrangements were made by Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI).

Memorial tributes may be made to the American Lung Association.

## Esther Mary (Gilstorf) Hadyniak

Esther Mary (Gilstorf) Hadyniak of Romulus, Michigan, died Friday, September 10. She was 67 years old.

Born in Huron Township, Michigan, on April 5, 1932, Esther was a member of the Progressive Club of Romulus and the Buxom Belle weight-watchers' club.

She is survived by her husband, John Hadyniak; two sons, John M. and Scott A. Hadyniak; two daughters, Mrs. Tom (Linda) Madej and Mrs. Kerry (Lorie)

Zilka; three brothers, Louis, Henry Jr., and Phil Gilstorf; four sisters, Mrs. Evelyn Gee, Mrs. Harold (Anna Mae) Pluff, Mrs. Ed (Irene) Taylor, and Mrs. Phyllis Zeld; and six grandchildren. Among those predeceasing her were one son, Craig Hadyniak; a brother, Allen Gilstorf; and a sister, Ida Amato.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, September 14, at St. Paul's United Church of Christ (Dearborn Heights, MI), with the Reverend Geoffrey G. Drutchas officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock, MI). Arrangements were made by Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI).

Memorial tributes may be made to the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association, or St. Paul's United Church of Christ. □

## Answers

answers to puzzles from page 12

### CAN YOU GUESS WHO?

waitress, indigo, ladder, lioness, igloo, aloha, maple, oatmeal, alias, knave, litter, Eagle, Yankee  
"(Mayor) William Oakley"

### YOU'LL FIND IT IN . . .

adonis, adroit, airman, amidst, arrant, artist, attain, damson, diatom, disarm, domain, inroad, instar, madras, mantis, mantra, marina, martin, matins, matron, midair, monism, morris, mortar, nimrod, ordain, otitis, radian, raisin, ramrod, random, ransom, ration, rattan, simian, sonata, strain, strait, strand, tantra, tartan, tartar, tatami, torrid

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